

Toilet contact dermatitis

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KEYWORDS

domestic cleanser • formaldehyde • formaldehyde releasers • ring-shaped contact dermatitis •

ABSTRACT



No Abstract

Received: 12 February 2008; Accepted: 09 June 2008;

DIGITAL OBJECT IDENTIFIER (DOI)

10.1111/j.1600-0536.2008.01322.x [About DOI](#)

Article Text

In 1982, an unusual case of formaldehyde contact dermatitis in a 6-year-old girl, caused by a d manifestation.

Case Report



3 patients (1 female and 2 males) presented to our out patient department with ring-shaped, re
corresponded to the pressure areas of the toilet seat. Patients reported that eczematous-like le

Fig. 1. Ring-shaped, red scaly plaques localized on the

[Normal View]

Each patient was patch tested with the Italian baseline series of allergens [Società Italiana di Dermatologia] with 'Haye's chambers'. At D4 reading, the tests showed a positive reaction (++) to formal

In all the cases, we detected the source of dermatitis in a domestic cleanser containing formal

Comment



Formaldehyde is a ubiquitous and strong sensitizer, commonly used in industrial, domestic, or

It is found as free formaldehyde, as a component of formaldehyde-releasing preservatives, and in common products such as house detergents, topical medications, and cosmetics; they are also used as resins are used as adhesives and binders in paper, plastic, textile finishing, etc. (2).

The risk of sensitization to formaldehyde is estimated to be very high among workers and consumers (of patients patch tested with the European baseline series). This is the result of exposure to formaldehyde releasers in sensitized patients has frequently been reported (5).

Because of the widespread use of formaldehyde, clinical presentations may be very variable.

In our patients, the unusual distribution of the dermatitis led us to the cause.

After an accurate history was taken, we showed that every patient in the group had spent length of time in formaldehyde-releasing products. The first man, respectively 45 years old, was a businessman spending most of the day in an office; the first woman, a 41-year-old teacher, and the first patient whom we described, in 1982, was a 6-year-old girl attending school.

Therefore, we concluded that contact with formaldehyde or formaldehyde components is more common than often used.

Multicentric studies should be promoted to investigate the prevalence of formaldehyde contact dermatitis in homes. Those subjects are more prone to be sensitized because of the physiological changes that occur in the home environment should be encouraged to substitute less sensitizing products for the problematic agents.

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